

# Outlook



## Black Saga is Back

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THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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## Brain Tumor Tests Professor's Resilience

**A**s a professor, Sandra Murray Nettles studies psychological resilience; what makes children and adolescents thrive despite adversity. A few years ago, Nettles drew on that work to tap a well of biological resilience within



Sandra Murray Nettles started out studying psychological resilience in young people, then became a case study in physical resilience.

herself.

Nettles, an associate professor in the College of Education, was diagnosed with a brain tumor in January 1995 that had apparently been growing since her own adolescence or young adulthood. It began to manifest itself by robbing Nettles of her cognitive and motor skills.

"I had not considered resilience in folks at mid-life and above. What is biological resilience all about?" she asked herself. "Am I going to be able to recover physically the way I'd learned that individuals can recover socially and psychologically? I began reading things on the plasticity of the brain."

Just as she poured herself into preparing for classes and her research, Nettles began fully exploring brain tumors. She also began looking for survivor stories. She only found two that came close: John Gunther's "Death Be Not Proud" about his son's battle with and eventual loss to a brain tumor, and

See NETTLES, page 4

## Taking Theater to the People

After-School Program Introduces Plays to High Schoolers



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

Students from Forest Park High School in Baltimore wait to see a performance of "Fashion" last week. Their teacher, Helen DeVinney, is on the far right.

**L**atrell Wilder wants to be an actress. She quickly, and with a flourish of arms, steps forward when asked if she's interested in being interviewed about the From Page to Stage program.

The 14-year-old ninth grader is from Forest Park High School in Baltimore and was in the lobby of the Clarice

Smith Performing Arts Center one day last week, with several of her classmates, waiting for a performance of "Fashion," a 19th century comedy written by one of the first successful women playwrights. From Page to Stage, run by the university's Center Alliance for School Teachers (CAST) and the Center for Renaissance and Baroque

Studies, is an after-school program that gives high school students the opportunity to explore the theater arts with a university professor. Once a week for 10 weeks, students meet to play theater games, discuss texts with personal and cultural relevance and create works of their own.

See CAST, page 4

## Dissertation Goes Transatlantic with Videoconferencing Technology

**L**ast month, for the first time at the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources — and perhaps the entire university — a doctoral dissertation was defended in two countries at once.

Jane Froese, a student in natural resource sciences, defended her dissertation on technology transfer between analogous agro-climatic zones via Internet videoconference technology with one member of her advisory committee an ocean away. The Maryland-based committee included Froese's advisor, Raymond Miller, a professor in natural resource sciences and landscape architecture and director of International Programs in Agriculture and Natural Resources; Scott Glenn and Robert Hill, both from natural resource sciences and landscape architecture and Adel Shirmohammadi, from biological resources engineering. The fifth member of Froese's committee, Pavel Sorokin, was located

at Moscow State Agro-Engineering University. Before moving to Moscow, Sorokin was the Russian Agricultural Counselor in Washington D.C., at which time he joined Froese's committee.

The videoconference started at 3 p.m. on February 20 in Moscow and at 7 a.m. EST. "Not the best time if you want your committee to be in a good mood," Froese says. However, the reason for this was logical: mid-morning East Coast e-mail traffic could cause connection problems and interfere with the videoconference. In the end, the time was fine for participants in both the United States and Russia.

Brad Paleg, distance learning specialist in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, conducted several trial runs to address problems associated with the language barrier and make sure that communication

See DISSERTATION, page 7

## Walking Toward Wellness



PHOTO BY MONETTE AUSTIN BAILEY

Joan Bellsey, assistant coordinator of the Faculty Staff Assistance Program, and Jennifer Treger, director of the Center for Health and Wellbeing, want campus members to join them on the road to better health.

**A**ll you need is a pair of tennis shoes. That's what Jennifer Treger, director of the Center for Health and Wellbeing, is telling anyone who is thinking about joining a new university walking club.

Treger and Joan Bellsey, assistant coordinator of the Faculty Staff Assistance Program, firmly believe in the benefits of a good daily walk. When Bellsey brought her idea to start a walking club to

See WALKING, page 6

## Getting Campus Labs to Think Green

**O**f all the hazardous materials handled in campus laboratories, mercury may not be thought of as a danger. However, university hazardous waste experts warn people not to be fooled by the element's quiet nature.

Following the federal government's lead, the university's Department of Environmental Safety (DES) is encouraging those working with mercury instruments to exchange them for non-hazardous ones.

"When released, it creates a potentially hazardous indoor environment," said Scott Lupin, associate director of DES. "It can be hard to clean. If it is released into the environment, it's persistent and can bioaccumulate in living organisms. The concentrations can go to higher levels as it goes up the food chain."

Mercury can enter the environment and waterways through drains after spills. A specially trained crew and equipment are needed to clean up a lab spill. Cleveland

See MERCURY, page 5



# dateline maryland

YOUR GUIDE TO UNIVERSITY EVENTS: MARCH 19-APRIL 3

TUESDAY

## march 19

**9 a.m.-4 p.m., Effective Meeting Facilitation for Groups, Teams and Committees** 1101U Chesapeake. Learn effective facilitation strategies to counteract common meeting problems. Registration is \$100. For more information or to register, contact Natalie Torres at 5-5651 or [traindev@accmail.umd.edu](mailto:traindev@accmail.umd.edu), or see [www.personnel.umd.edu](http://www.personnel.umd.edu).\*

**12-1:30 p.m., Leveraging Corporate Knowledge Seminar** 1412 Rouse Auditorium, Van Munching Hall. "Building a Global Information Technology Platform: The World Bank's Experience" with Mohamed V. Muhsin, Vice President and CIO, the World Bank Group. For more information, contact Chris Williamson at 5-8502 or [chwilliam@rhsmith.umd.edu](mailto:chwilliam@rhsmith.umd.edu), or visit <http://rhsmith.umd.edu/ces>.

**12:15 p.m., Mother Tongue and Fatherland: The Dilemma of German-Speaking Jews in Prague From Mauthner to Katfa** 1102 Francis Scott Key. With Scott Spector, University of Michigan. Part of the Joseph & Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies. To reserve lunch, call 5-4975.

**12:30-1:45 p.m., Works-in-Progress Series** 0135 Taliaferro Hall. Perceptions and Depictions of Women on the French Renaissance and English Restoration Stages presented by Heidi Castle-Smith, Carrie Cole, Ben Fidler, Department of Theatre. For more information, contact Karen Nelson at 5-6830 or [kn15@umail.umd.edu](mailto:kn15@umail.umd.edu), or visit [www.inform.umd.edu/crbs/calendar](http://www.inform.umd.edu/crbs/calendar).

**4 p.m., Physics Colloquium** 1410 Physics Lecture Hall. With Eugene Beier, University of Pennsylvania: "Solar Neutrino Results From SNO." For more information, contact Sheldon S. Smith at 5-5945 or [sheldon@physics.umd.edu](mailto:sheldon@physics.umd.edu), or visit <http://dept.physics.upenn.edu/facultyinfo/geneb/geneb.html> or [www.physics.umd.edu](http://www.physics.umd.edu).

**4:15-6 p.m., Quality of Teachers and Academic Achievement** 1121 Benjamin. Panelists will gather to discuss the topic as part of the Maryland Institute for Minority

## We Have a Winner!

Though we received quite a few entries for this week's photo contest, only about half correctly guessed as to "What is it — Where is it?" in the March 12 issue of Outlook: the West Chapel, as seen from the courtyard. Michelle M. Moore, with Collection Management & Special Collections in McKeldin Library, won the drawing and a free beverage from the Union Coffee Bar. Extra points for identifying the magnolia trees reflected in the window! Michelle, please call 5-4629 to claim your prize coupon. Outlook will take a spring break and not publish next week. However, look for a new photo in an upcoming issue.

Achievement and Urban Education colloquium series. A summary of each speaker's presentation can be found at [www.education.umd.edu/MIMAUE](http://www.education.umd.edu/MIMAUE). For more information, contact Martin L. Johnson at [mj13@umail.umd.edu](mailto:mj13@umail.umd.edu).

**5:30 p.m., John Fugie: Women of Power Series: Virginia Woolf Laboratory Theater** Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. This comparative literature professor presents an installment of his Women of Power film series. For more information, call (301) 405-ARTS or visit [www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu).

WEDNESDAY

## march 20

**12 p.m., Books in Print and Books in Progress about the U.S.M.C.** Lecture Room D, National Archives at College Park, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park. Brig. Gen. Ed Simmons, USMC (Ret.) will draw upon his previous books "The United States Marines: A History," "The Marines" and "Dog Company Six," as well as his upcoming work "Frozen Chosin: The U.S. Marines at Changjin Reservoir." Reservations are recommended; call (301) 713-6274 ext. 239.

**12-1 p.m., Rural Families Speak: Life in a State of Poverty** 1216 Marie Mount. As part of Women's History Month, the Department of Family Studies presents an interactive exploration of low-income, rural families in Maryland and 14 other states participating in an Extension study. For more information, contact Bonnie Braun at 5-3581 or [bb157@umail.umd.edu](mailto:bb157@umail.umd.edu).

**12-1:30 p.m., Scholarship of Teaching and Learning: Exploring the Nature and Benefits of Undergraduate**

**Research** Maryland Room, Marie Mount Hall. Individuals will present their work. Light refreshments will be served. Sponsored by the Center for Teaching Excellence. For more information, visit [www.umd.edu/cte](http://www.umd.edu/cte). RSVP requested; call Mary Wesley at 5-9356 or RSVP online.

**5:30-6:30 p.m., Meditation** 0121 CRC. The Center for Health & Wellbeing presents a session on meditation: What is it? How is it done? And will it relieve my stress? For more information, call 4-1493 or e-mail [treger@health.umd.edu](mailto:treger@health.umd.edu).

**8 p.m., University of Maryland Symphony Orchestra** Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. World-famous pianist André Watts joins the UMSSO to perform MacDowell's Piano Concerto in D Minor, op. 23, no. 2. For more information, contact (301) 405-ARTS, or visit [www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu).

THURSDAY

## march 21

**9:30-11 a.m., Laboratory Safety Orientation Training Session** 3104 Chesapeake Building. Hosted by the Department of Environmental Safety, this training is offered to assure regulatory compliance. Space is limited. Contact Jeanette Cartron at 5-2131 or [jcartron@accmail.umd.edu](mailto:jcartron@accmail.umd.edu).

**12-2 p.m., Literary Cartography of the Americas: The Politics of Translation and the Translation of Poetry** 2123 Susquehanna Hall. The Caribbean Research Interest Group presents the first lunch-time talk of its Spring 2002 Brown Bag Series with Carlos Schroeder, instructor, comparative literature and Tanya Shields, Ph.D. student, comparative literature. For more information,

contact Belinda Wallace at [bwalla@wam.umd.edu](mailto:bwalla@wam.umd.edu) or Barbara Shaw Perry at 5-8279.

**4:15-5:30 p.m., Talk About Teaching: The Wife of Bath and Her Sisters** 0135 Taliaferro Hall. The Center Alliance for School Teachers (CAST) hosts Charles Rutherford, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs in the College of Arts and Humanities, in an informal conversation and sharing of ideas. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Nancy Traubitz at 5-6830 or [nt32@umail.umd.edu](mailto:nt32@umail.umd.edu), or visit [www.inform.umd.edu/crbs/programs/cast](http://www.inform.umd.edu/crbs/programs/cast).

**7-10 p.m., Yoga for Stress Workshop** Ritchie Coliseum. Campus Recreation Services offers this one-day (non-credit) workshop to help participants cope with stresses they may be experiencing, created by work, school, home or roommates. The fee is \$20. Payment can be made by credit card (VISA/MC/Discover). For more information, contact Laura Sutter at 5-PLAY or [ls220@umail.umd.edu](mailto:ls220@umail.umd.edu), or visit [www.crs.umd.edu](http://www.crs.umd.edu).\*

**8 p.m., Faculty Spotlight Recital** Gildenhorn Recital Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. A new recital series showcasing the talents of faculty artists at the University of Maryland School of Music. For more information, call (301) 405-ARTS or visit [www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu).

**8 p.m., University of Maryland African Drum Ensemble** Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Diali Djimo Kouyate, oral historian and musician of Manding culture, leads the ensemble in an evening of song and dance featuring West African percussion and string instruments. For more information, call (301) 405-ARTS or visit [www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu).

FRIDAY

## march 22

**12 p.m., Song of Song: Riddle of Riddles** 1102 Francis Scott Key. With Yair Zakovitch, Hebrew University. Part of the Joseph & Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies. To reserve lunch, call 5-4975.

**12-12:50 p.m., Entomology Colloquium** 1140 Plant Sciences Building. David Severson, University of Notre Dame, will speak on "Genes to Genomics in Culicine Mosquitoes." A reception will follow in 4102 Plant Sciences Building. For more information, call 5-3911 or visit [www.entm.umd.edu](http://www.entm.umd.edu).

**8 p.m., Zvi Gotheiner Dance** Kay Theatre, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Zvi Gotheiner newly recreates The

Amber Room for Washington-area audiences, following its successful run in New York. Tickets are \$25. Call (301) 405-ARTS or visit [www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu).\*

SATURDAY

## march 23

**9 a.m.-4 p.m., Black Saga Competition** Stamp Student Union. See page 7.

**8 p.m., Zvi Gotheiner Dance** Kay Theatre, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. See March 22.

TUESDAY

## april 2

**4 p.m., Physics Colloquium** 1410 Physics Lecture Hall. With Lawrence Cardman, Jefferson Laboratory, Newport News, VA: "CEBAF and Jefferson Lab: recent results and future plans." For more information, contact Sheldon S. Smith at 5-5945 or [sheldon@physics.umd.edu](mailto:sheldon@physics.umd.edu), or visit [www.jlab.org](http://www.jlab.org) or [www.physics.umd.edu](http://www.physics.umd.edu).

WEDNESDAY

## april 3

**3:30-4:30 p.m., Lecture by the Ambassador of Argentina** Multipurpose Room, St. Mary's Hall. Ambassador Diego Guelar will speak at the Language House as part of the Office of International Programs' Ambassadorial Lecture Series. For more information, contact Tanya Huntington at 5-8933 or [thunting@wam.umd.edu](mailto:thunting@wam.umd.edu).

## Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community.

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## calendar guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314 or 405. Calendar information for Outlook is compiled from a combination of Inform's master calendar and submissions to the Outlook office. Submissions are due two weeks prior to the date of publication. To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or e-mail to [outlook@accmail.umd.edu](mailto:outlook@accmail.umd.edu). \*Events are free and open to the public unless noted by an asterisk (\*).



# Stages

Ellen Lauren portrays Virginia Woolf in director Anne Bogart's "Room."

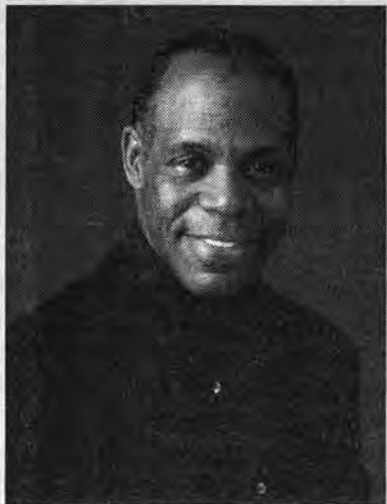
NEWS FROM THE CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

## An Evening with Langston, Martin and Danny Glover

Actor Danny Glover will perform at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center in a special evening of performance and theatrical readings. Glover will be joined by actor/director Felix Justice for "An Evening with Langston and Martin," an event commemorating Martin Luther King Jr. and Langston Hughes. Presented by The Democracy Collaborative, the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center and the Afro-American Studies Program, "An Evening" will be held in the Ina and Jack Kay Theatre on Tuesday, April 9 at 7:30 p.m., followed by a post performance question and answer segment with both actors.

The program begins with Justice delivering a portrayal of Martin Luther King Jr. Armed with nothing but himself and two of King's most memorable and inspiring speeches, Justice virtually becomes the legendary civil rights leader, delivering an oration in the heart of the Civil Rights era. Momentarily recreating the power of the man and his message, Justice performs the last speech King ever delivered on April 3, 1968 in Memphis, Tenn. Justice specifically chose this speech because he felt it was "the sum of King's concerns in his last hours."

Performing theatrical readings from the works of Langston Hughes, Glover brings to life the uniquely African-American words and rhythms of one of our country's most celebrated writers. Along the way, he shares insights into the varied ways Hughes' writings have touched him during



Danny Glover and Felix Justice give moving portrayals of Langston Hughes and Martin Luther King Jr. in "An Evening with Langston and Martin."

his own life. Glover runs the gamut of Hughes' collection, spanning from his first poem, "The Negro Speaks of Rivers," to one of his last, "Birmingham Sunday," a response to the tragic death of four girls in a church bombing in 1963.

For Glover and Justice, "An Evening with Langston and Martin" is the result of a long history of friendship. Often performed in honor of Black History month, Glover brings the production back to college campuses for the students "to hear their voices and the issues prevalent to them." Tickets are \$30, \$10 for full-time students with ID. Contact the Ticket Office at (301) 405-ARTS.

## Dance Festival Comes to Maryland

While many students will be heading south for spring break this year, hundreds of others will be heading to College Park for the four-day American College Dance Festival Association's Mid-Atlantic Regional Festival (ACDFA) March 23-26. Although this is the third time the festival will be held at Maryland, it is the first year activities will be held in one building, the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

The ACDFA promotes the talent and creativity prominent throughout college and university dance departments. Every two years regional festivals take place where students engage in three days of workshops, lectures, demonstrations and master classes. The festivals also provide an opportunity for students and faculty to have their dance works adjudicated by a panel of nationally recognized dance professionals. A selection of the adjudicated works are recommended for presentation at the National Festival, held at the Kennedy Center in May.

Department of Dance Co-coordinators Mim Rosen and Alcine Wiltz have been working with committee members, Anne Warren, Alvin Mayes and Paul D. Jackson to bring this event to the Center. With the help of 41 undergraduates and graduates, the festival will present extraordinary students from all over the country.

This year, the festival features 37 schools from around the region and nation. Three professional dance adjudicators, Mark Haim, Zvi Gotheiner and Marlies Yearby, will review 58, 12-minute works in an effort to select the culminating gala program that completes the festival.

Each school may present two works for adjudication, one choreographed by a faculty member or guest artist and one by a student. Additionally, each school may present one non-adjudicated work for review.

In addition to the adjudicated works, the festival will offer a full range of classes for participants including technique, pilates and other mind/body methods plus an array of lectures on video dance, dance management and dance preservation. "The classes serve as a great opportunity for students to be exposed to faculty and teachers from all over the country," said Rosen, professor of dance.

The festival will kick off with a performance by Zvi Gotheiner Dance on Friday and Saturday March 22 and 23 at 8 p.m. in the Ina and Jack Kay Theatre. Gotheiner presents an area premiere of "The Amber Room." This dance-theater work was inspired by the mysterious disappearance of what was regarded as the Eighth Wonder of the Modern World. A gift from Wilhelm I of Prussia to Russia's Peter the Great, the Amber Room was composed of walls carved from the golden stone and was installed in the Catherine Palace, outside St. Petersburg. During World War II, the Nazis dismantled the room and shipped it to Koenigsburg, where it vanished. The Amber Room became the best-known symbol of the cultural treasures destroyed by the Germans in Russia. Gotheiner's "The Amber Room" uses this story to explore issues such as the creation and ownership of art and the body as an art object.

The final gala program will be presented on March 26 at 8 p.m. in the Kay Theatre. Following the program, awards and the works selected for the National Festival will be announced.



## Finding the Room to Move, to Breathe, to Create

"I must ask you to imagine a room. Any room. But it must be your room... Do you have such a room? I pity you if you do not. A room of one's own is not a luxury but a necessity."

Conceived by award-winning director Anne Bogart, "Room" is a one-woman play sampled from a lifetime of writings by the remarkable artist Virginia Woolf. Making its area premiere, "Room" will be held in the Ina and Jack Kay Theatre of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center from April 3-6 at 8 p.m. and April 7 at 3 p.m.

Starring Ellen Lauren, "Room" traces the movement of a creative spirit in crisis. The play is about the room to move, breathe and imagine, emotional room and creative room. "A rigorous exploration of Woolf's life work



Ellen Lauren portrays Virginia Woolf in director Anne Bogart's "Room."

and imagination," Lauren says, "Room" weaves childhood memories and mature observations about writing into a stream of consciousness. "Woolf wrote in a way that showed everything happening at once — scratching your leg, obsessing over the past, panicking

because of something you did when you were 5. Through her use of language, Woolf gave birth to an original artistic form."

According to director Bogart, "Room" does not attempt to portray or embody Woolf. Rather, Lauren is an American actress, also in a room, who enters into the world, thoughts and writing of Virginia Woolf. She is our guide into the mind and experience of this extraordinary English writer.

The work is an adaptation of her observations of the 21st century, where her issues remain as relevant as ever.

In conjunction with the play, Bogart will be participating in residency activities with the university's Department of Theatre. For more information, contact the Ticket Office at (301) 405-ARTS.

For ticket information or to request a season brochure, contact the Ticket Office at 301.405.ARTS or visit [www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu).

CLARICE SMITH  
PERFORMING ARTS  
CENTER AT MARYLAND





## Major Improvements to the OIT Help Desk

In a continuing effort to provide superior support to the University of Maryland community, the Office of Information Technology (OIT) Help Desk is creating a more efficient and robust operation. Two recent changes involving staffing and the provisioning of services will promote enhanced support to faculty, staff and students

The OIT Help Desk is now staffed entirely by full-time professional employees, rather than by a mix of full-time and student staff. This should result in reduced hold times and increase the likelihood that the first person to receive a query will be able to fully resolve the issue. Although the staff is new, customers will most likely experience an immediate improvement in service. Furthermore, the service is anticipated to improve throughout the spring semester as the new staff members become more acclimated to the university's computing environment and needs.

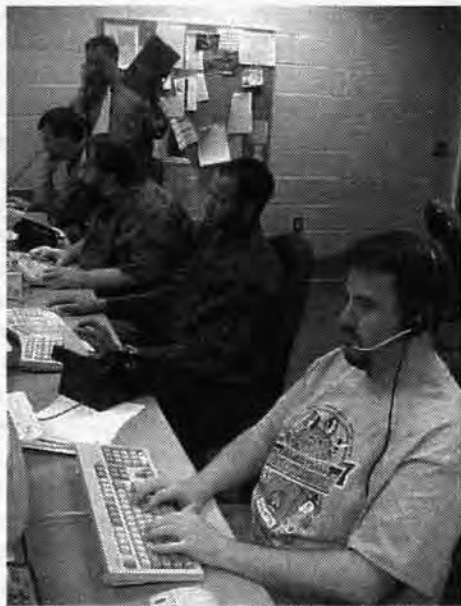
"These are exciting times. We have the rare opportunity to define our role in the university community, facilitate change and build to our customer's needs," said Dawn TeboMatlock, the new Help Desk manager. "We're focusing now on determining our core competencies and procedural documentation. I'm very confident and extremely optimistic about the improvements within the Help Desk."

One problem traditionally faced at the Help Desk has been obtaining adequate student staffing during the busiest times, which coincide with the times students are most likely to be in classes. Switching to a professional staff eliminates this problem so the Help Desk is now able to provide increased staffing during the times customers are most likely to call.

There are two major reasons why customers should now receive answers more quickly from the first person they talk with at the Help Desk. First, it will no longer be necessary for certain calls to be escalated to a supervisor. Previously, student staff could not be granted access to systems

containing critical financial and student data, so many problems and questions related to those systems required a supervisor's attention. Now, any member of the staff can perform a greater range of tasks on these systems. This will result in more immediate service to the customer.

Second, employees who work full time at the Help



Tim Byrne (standing, rear) with (seated l-r) David Arnold, Mike Schillingno, Bernard Hill and Eric Byrd are part of the new full-time Help Desk staff in the Office of Information Technology (OIT).

Desk will become more knowledgeable as a result of increased training opportunities and on-the-job experience. Because of the dramatic growth of information technology over the last 10 years, it is no longer possible for student staff working part time to keep up with the diverse range of applications and systems the Help Desk is tasked with supporting.

In addition to the staffing changes, the OIT Help Desk and the IT Library recently joined forces. The merger will allow OIT to intensify its "customer first" focus. Most of the technical book collection will be reallocated to the University Library system. Therefore, OIT will no longer provide book and tutorial check-out services. However, the Help Desk will continue to provide hardware rental, software licensing and Peer Training payments, documentation distribution and research resources.

The OIT Help Desk will continue to be located in room 1400 of the Computer and Space Sciences Building. For more information, go to [www.helpdesk.umd.edu](http://www.helpdesk.umd.edu), contact the desk through e-mail at [helpdesk@helpdesk.umd.edu](mailto:helpdesk@helpdesk.umd.edu), call (301) 405-1500 or stop by. Associates are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

—by Sonja Kueppers

## CAST: Program Makes Drama Accessible

Continued from page 1

"We do a lot of things. We act, sing. We just have fun," said Latrell. "We meet every Thursday from 4 to 5 p.m. and we have pizza." The students also attend live performances at Clarice.

"We study how plays come from page to stage," said Nancy Traubitz, CAST program director. "We give them a reason to want to read challenging, rich materials."

As the students loitered in the lobby of the performing arts center, alternating between looks of extreme boredom and barely disguised enthusiasm, teacher and Stage site coordinator Helen DeVinney attempted to impart last minute instructions. No gum, book bags are to be kept at the feet, no talking. Her words are stern, but she knows that many of these kids really enjoy their theater experiences.

"I teach Shakespeare and Sophocles, but during class we don't have time to do too much," she said. "This is the first opportunity they have to experience drama."

The after-school workshops, led by Catonsville Community College instructor Drew Kahl, build self-confidence, said DeVinney. "We have several



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

Nancy Traubitz, director of the Center Alliance for School Teachers (CAST), feels bringing kids to the theater is a good way to create interest in reading drama.

divas in the making."

Activities center around one play, usually Shakespeare, with students reading and often giving modern interpretations of the works. This session the kids are reading "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Traubitz says the program has run, on and off and in various forms, for approximately a dozen years. She looks for recreation centers and schools that are willing to host "a challenging program."

Alonzo Hester may not be ready for the stage, but he's one of Traubitz's stars. During an early visit to Forest Park, Traubitz noticed 11th grader Alonzo on the basketball court, as he frequently peeked into the room where the kids were working. She invited him

to stay. Though he initially declined, he soon was there every Thursday.

"I told him that he couldn't just peek in. He had to get involved. It's a wonderful program, but it's hard work," said Traubitz. Although Alonzo did join, it was hard to discern his level of enthusiasm. He shrugged his shoulders and looked skyward when asked what he likes about the program.

Jashen Alston, a ninth grader, was less reserved and asked if he could talk about From Page to Stage. He likes reading scripts and learning about the theater. "It's fun." He credits Kahl with keeping the students on track when their silliness takes over.

Traubitz, who travels to Baltimore to participate almost every week, appreciates that the kids enjoy themselves while learning. The skills are academically transferable to lots of other areas, she said. She credits many organizations, such as Pizza Hut, the Travelers Foundation and Bedford Press, with keeping From Page to Stage running.

"It's bits and pieces of funding for a wonderful program," she said.

## Nettles: A Study in Recovery, Resilience

Continued from page 1

an edited book of vignettes about patients and caregivers. So Nettles began to write her own book, not knowing how much time she'd have to get the words down before she could no longer recall them. Nettles already belonged to a community writers' group and took some notes for an assignment that turned into 20 pages. A short story writer and published poet, Nettles knew she had to try to keep writing.

"It was my way of healing my brain," she says. "It forced me to start making connections. Having had that kind of neurological disorder affects your creativity."

A journal keeper from way back, Nettles became frustrated with her growing inability to count on notes to herself and journal entries. Depression settled in. A single mother of college-age twin girls, Nettles wanted to get back to the full life she had led. It was old journals, however, that helped Nettles recreate her life during what she calls her "tumorous years."

In her book, "Crazy Visitation: A Chronicle of Illness and

Recovery" (University of Georgia Press, 2001), she writes, "My resumé, appointment calendars, bank statements, marriage licenses, divorce papers, voter registration card — all the other documents of my life tell the story of the person who tried to be a good mother and citizen. The journals tell the story of the person, the self, who was dying." Nettles says she spent two years writing the "Nourished on Nightmare" chapter from which the above quote comes. She went through 40 journals from a 15-year period, doing a thorough content analysis so that she could provide an honest, "nitty-gritty" account of her life. She felt the book wouldn't have offered a true experience without it.

It's been six years since the large tumor was removed, and Nettles says on a 1-10 scale of capacity she is at 8. "If I had to graph my life, I would say I started off as a 9 when I was 25; I'd gone down to a 1 when the tumor was diagnosed and now I'm at an 8."

This semester she teaches one course in human development and is working on a research project with colleagues at Johns Hopkins and the University of Texas that looks at how neighborhoods and family affect adjustment in elementary school students. She is also working on a paper with a colleague on "zones of narrative safety," which she credits with her resilience. In safe places, she was able to tell her story through writing, in therapy and in other forms of expression. "We are looking for youth programs that feature narrative expression as a vehicle for fostering resilience," she says.

Friend Lynn Bolles, acting director of the Afro-American Studies Program and professor of women's studies, says Nettles' recovery is "absolutely amazing." Nettles, who still says she has work to do, feels regaining full capacity isn't optional.

"I had a choice. I could have gone home after the surgery with my mom and dad and vegged out. But I had to tell this story... about coming out on the other side of trauma."



## University Makes Pact to Improve Environment

The University of Maryland and the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Committee (AWRC) joined in a partnership last week to work to improve the condition of the Anacostia Watershed.

Last Tuesday, President Dan Mote and Cameron Wiegand of AWRC, signed a Memorandum of Understanding stating their common goals for the area, in which the university is centrally located. William Destler, vice president of academic affairs and provost said the agreement is a commitment for the two organizations "to work together in a coordinated fashion to clean up the watershed." They will also share information and expertise.

"We have an impact on the ecological region," Destler said. "We want to work with others in trying to improve the ecology of the region."

The AWRC's main goal is restoring the Anacostia River and its tributaries. Members of the committee include the District of Columbia, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, the state of Maryland, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. National Park Service.

The agreement was originally initiated by Thomas Fretz, dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Destler said he re-worked the draft in January to a point where both parties were happy. The agreement is in line with the campus' overall goal to work on the environmental impact of the campus, Destler added.

The university can pose problems to the area with issues such as run-off from paved parking lots. After a rain, toxic chemicals are fed into the watershed. This partnership will work to alleviate such problems.

"We are instituting a rain garden, in a parking lot, designed to capture chemicals before they spill into the watershed," Destler said. The AWRC will assist in the design, implementation and evaluation of such projects. A fish ladder is on the agenda, to correct the erosion of the water bed so that fish can migrate and move about.

The university can benefit from a relationship with the AWRC, which unites several groups to work toward the improvement of the Anacostia River, by helping with the coordination of the university's activities with the many other outlets.

"This will incite an even new and broader collaboration on these kinds of problems," Destler said about the partnership.

## Maryland Places First in Student Affairs Conference Case Competition

Claire Williams and Clark Dawood, from the Department of Resident Life, won first place in the first annual Maryland Student Affairs Case Competition held last month.

The Maryland Conference is the largest Student Affairs conference in the region, with more than 450 participants. Those taking part in the competition were given a hypothetical situation to solve, and given five days to prepare a case (or suggested plan of action) for a three-judge panel. The situation, in this instance, was a complex case that involved race, gender, ethnicity, campus climate, faculty/staff/student relations and public image. Participants were rewarded for comprehensive analysis, thoroughness and originality in solutions.

Competitors presented their case on the Friday of the conference. Participation was limited to the first eight teams who responded; the maximum team size was three.

"The case competition provides a wonderful opportunity for young professionals in our field to combine



Claire Williams and Clark Dawood took first place in the competition.

theory with practice. In the case competitions that I have judged, I've often found truly innovative ideas presented; the judges may walk away getting as much as the participants out of the experience," said Linda Clement, vice president of Student Affairs.

The winners were announced during the reception at the close of the conference. Second place went to Christine McGill and Terry Dade of the University of Virginia; and third place went to Vivian Garay, Ashley Moubert

and Dharma Naik of the University of Maryland. The first-place finishers received \$500 in professional development funds; second-place, \$250 and third-place, \$150.

Michael Freeman, vice president for student affairs at St. Mary's College of Maryland, Matt Wawrzynski, assistant director of orientation at Maryland, and Cindy Felice, associate director for resident life at the university, served as judges.

The 2003 Maryland Student Affairs Conference has been scheduled for Feb. 14.

## Notable

Gary Williams was voted Associated Press Coach of the Year in the Atlantic Coast Conference. Williams led Maryland to its first regular season Atlantic Coast Conference championship in 22 years. He received 44 out of 84 possible votes from the Atlantic Coast Sports Writers Association, beating out North Carolina State's Herb Sendek, who had 35 votes. Maryland finished the regular season 27-4 and earned a first ever No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament.

The March 18 issue of U.S. News & World Report listed the University of Maryland on its Honor Roll for college sports. The university was evaluated on sanctions, gender equity, win/loss, number of athletic programs and graduation rates. The honor roll recognizes schools that fared well in several areas. Only 20 out of 321 NCAA Division I schools were named to the list. Other schools on the honor roll include Duke, Georgetown, Stanford and the University of Utah.

## Mercury: New Options to Replace Hazardous Element

Continued from page 1



Cleveland Taylor, project manager of the pollution prevention program, displays one of several non-mercury thermometers recommended by DES. Unlike mercury thermometers, the type above does not require special disposal procedures; if it breaks, it can simply be thrown away.

Taylor, an environmental safety specialist with DES, said his group frequently responds to mercury spills, with each one considered an emergency response. If they can't clean or contain it, an outside contractor is brought in, after which an industrial hygienist needs to test the air quality of the area.

Taylor is the project manager of the pollution prevention program for DES and is coordinating a thermometer exchange program to encourage campus labs to "think green." As long as funds allow, DES will offer free exchanges to those bringing in mercury thermometers. Department environmental compliance officers, who received notice of the program earlier in the month, are asked to take the lead on the program.

"We have an arrangement with the Chemistry Stores to actually make the exchange. First, you have to put in an electronic request for a particular item," explained Taylor. "Once we get enough, we put an order in. You take your old thermometer to the store and they'll exchange it."

The mercury-free ther-

mometers are made by HB Instrument Company and sold to DES by VWR International, a trusted campus vendor. Each one is calibrated to NIST standards and comes with a statement of accuracy. Individuals may see what is offered by going to <http://des.umd.edu/mercury/mercury.cfm>

Lupin stressed that the exchange will not upgrade equipment and that it is one for one. The Chemistry Stores, in 0202 Chemistry, will begin to stock more non-hazardous items to sell once the exchange is underway. Both men feel that with support, the campus can minimize an environmental danger.

"We've gotten some positive feedback from our campus survey and have found some funding to support the program," said Taylor.

A VWR International trade show will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 3 in room 0104 Plant Sciences Building. Representatives from HB Instruments and other laboratory safety equipment vendors will display their products. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, call Cleveland Taylor at (301) 405-7535.



## MFRI Director Participates in Exchange

**M**aryland Fire and Rescue Institute Director Steven T. Edwards recently accepted an invitation to participate as a member of the People to People Fire Chief's Delegation to the People's Republic of China.

The goodwill, cultural exchange trip included visits to the cities of Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong. While in China, Edwards toured fire departments, fire apparatus

their American counterparts. "You could place the Shanghai Fire Training Center in College Park and we could function from it very well," said Edwards, who recently served as president of the North American Fire Training Directors. As such, he has visited numerous state training facilities throughout the country.

During the 12-day China visit, many discussions turned to the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center towers



PHOTO COURTESY OF MFRI

Director Steve Edwards (center) is pictured with two firefighters from Fire Station #27 in Beijing. This single fire station protects a vast population of 640,000 people within its first due response area.

manufacturers, fire research facilities and training academies. Recent advances in the Chinese government's open-market economy were instrumental to the program's decision to travel to China. The exchange was beneficial for both countries, since they have significantly different methods of operation. The number of fire incidents and fire deaths are very low in China as compared to the United States. This difference is attributed to widespread proactive fire prevention and fire education programs. In addition, Chinese society places greater emphasis on individual responsibility for carefulness.

Surprisingly, Edwards found few differences between the Chinese training centers and

and the Pentagon. Chinese firefighters, officers and training personnel all wanted to talk about the heroic actions of America's fire service personnel both during and after the tragedies. Deep sympathy for the great number of American losses was continually expressed.

Two Beijing Fire Department fire officers have already received reciprocal invitations to visit America. They will attend MFRI's annual National Staff and Command Course to be held this year in Dallas. While reports that the squid egg soup and ox stomach served in China were excellent, Beijing's fire officers will more likely be treated to a Texas-style barbecue.

—by April Walker

## State, University Collaborate for Kids

**T**he university is joining a state-wide effort to recruit mentors, initiated by Attorney General J. Joseph Curran Jr.'s office.

The office has partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters of both Central Maryland and the National Capital Area to create a new mentoring recruitment program called Mentor Maryland. The program challenges Maryland businesses, colleges and faith institutions to help enlist 2,002 mentors for 2002.

Those working with the effort at the university include Barbara Jacoby, director of Commuter Affairs and Community Service. "The attorney general's office is interested in getting the whole university community involved," Jacoby said.

With all of the students, faculty, staff and organizations on campus, Jacoby said the university is a good resource to tap for mentors. Many faculty and staff members come into her office looking for service opportunities, often with an interest in working with children, she said.

Mentoring is a one-on-one relationship between a caring adult and a child in need. The attorney general's office has focused the program as a pre-

ventive effort to reach out to youth before they get into trouble. A quarter of Maryland's school children are considered at risk by the attorney general's office.

"There are a lot of youth in the state that do not have regular contact with a caring adult," Jacoby said. As a result, children who do not have this kind of relationship are more likely to become at risk.

Mentor Maryland allows individuals, companies and organizations to enter a structured program of Big Brothers Big Sisters to work with children. Big Brothers Big Sisters, which has been actively involved in mentoring since 1904, will screen and place prospective mentors recruited by the initiative.

"This is a terrific opportunity," said Jacoby. "It's very flexible and yet it comes with excellent training." Jacoby said there are several ways the university can get involved: one-on-one mentoring, school-based mentoring, workplace mentoring and faith-based mentoring. Offices and departments can also work together in a mentoring effort. Those who feel as though they cannot spare the time can commit to as little as four hours a month to spend

with a child.

Jacoby said they want to put the word out to the campus community that mentors are needed. Mentor Maryland is expected to have a table at Maryland Day with representatives recruiting and answering questions about the program.



**A**nyone interested in becoming a mentor can get more information and apply online by visiting the Office of Attorney General's Web site ([www.oag.state.md.us](http://www.oag.state.md.us)) or by calling 1-888-743-0023.

## ZOOM

**I**t's a very special time at the University of Maryland. Every day there are new and exciting things happening, and we want to make sure you know about all the good news... all the accomplishments... all the things that make us **ZOOM**.

**For instance, have you heard?**

The Robert H. Smith School of Business is ranked No. 6 in

the world in research by the Financial Times. And, it doesn't stop there. The Smith School also earned these top-25 rankings:

- No. 3** - Value for the money of top U.S. schools
- No. 6** - U.S. public business school
- No. 7** - Entrepreneurship
- No. 8** - Information technology
- No. 21** - U.S. school overall

### And did you know?

The university is one of America's Best College Sports Programs. The U.S. News College Sports Honor Roll recognizes University of Maryland as one of 20 schools with the best overall rankings across four categories of achievement. U.S. News based its rankings on the overall success of the athletic program including expanding opportunities for women, the quality of education received by student athletes and the ability of the institution and its athletes to play by the rules and stay off probation. We're **ZOOM**ing on and off the field.

## Walking: Club Aims to Help Participants Make Time for Health, Well-being

Continued from page 1

Treger, there was immediate agreement. It seems Treger was thinking the same thing.

"Most of my clients under stress need it," said Bellsey. "It's a great way to relieve stress."

"I've done so many programs where people say they do not have time to exercise, but exercise is the key to everything," said Treger.

The six-week club will run through May 9, meeting every Thursday for 30-45 minutes of walking followed by 15 minutes of stretching led by

Treger's health education intern Jessica Blake. All levels of walkers are welcome and the success of this pilot phase will determine if the club continues. "We want to get people excited about this," said Bellsey.

If their enthusiasm thus far is any indication, the club should be a success. Bellsey, who also runs, hopes that the camaraderie formed will motivate people to see walking as an easy way to improve their health. Treger, a new mom,

**T**he first meeting of the walking club will be from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. on April 4 in room 3100E of the Health Center. For more information, call Jennifer Treger at (301) 314-1493 or Joan Bellsey at (301) 314-8099, or send an e-mail to [treger@health.umd.edu](mailto:treger@health.umd.edu).

also sees this as a way to motivate herself to stay in shape. In

weight management classes she hosts, people ask for support groups to help them maintain healthy habits.

The women are still working out some of the club's details, but would like to offer incentives to walkers, such as recognition for meeting certain goals. Perhaps they'll calculate the distance to certain area landmarks, said Treger, and then tell participants their cumulative mileage got them to, say, Frederickburg. "Also, they could meet with me to set

goals or talk about barriers. I would love to see people who haven't been active in a while."

The bottom line: just start walking, for as much time as possible on as many days as possible. "They should not *not* come because they have to get back to work," said Bellsey. "Any amount is worth it to get them started. Men, too. This isn't the women's walking club."

"If you can only do 15 minutes, fine," added Treger. "Then do 15 more later. It all adds up."



## Black Saga Competition Returns

It's Black Saga time again. This Saturday, hundreds of fourth-through eighth-grade students will head to the university to compete for the state championship in African-American history.

The brainchild of university geology professor Charles Christian, the Black Saga Competition gets students to learn more about black history than is often taught in school.

Using the quiz below, test your knowledge. The answers can be found at the bottom of the test.

For more of a challenge, visit [www.collegepublisher.com/outlook](http://www.collegepublisher.com/outlook). Click on the Black Saga story in this week's online edition and find 15 different questions on more current history. The first five respondents to get the most correct answers will get a copy of "Black Saga: The African American Experience: A Chronology." The book is a survey of the people, events and places of black history from 1492 to the present. It features forgotten stories of escaped slaves and little-known entrepreneurs, all of which are complemented by more than 200 illustrations.

Entries will be graded by Christian. Winners will be announced in a future issue of Outlook.

1. What major river valley contributed to the growth of three great ancient West African empires—Mali, Ghana, Songhai?

2. In 1641, what colony became the first to recognize slavery as a legal institution?

3. Jean Baptiste Pointe du Sable was the first wholesaler, the first merchant and the first settler in this area when he set up permanent residence and a fur trading business along a river near Lake Michigan. Name the city that was founded at this site.

4. Between 1770 and 1775, Charleston, South Carolina was receiving 4,000 enslaved Africans per year. All of them were held for several weeks at the so-called "pest house" on Sullivan's Island, a quarantine station designed to prevent the spread of epidemics from overseas. So many people arrived here that Sullivan's Island became known as what?

5. In 1781, a group of 44 men and women (26 of whom were of African descent) founded the second settlement in California. Today, it is the largest city in the state. Name this city.

6. In 1793, the United States Congress passed an act making it a crime to harbor an escaped enslaved African or to interfere with his capture or arrest. Name the act.

7. The United States Congress passed legislation that prohibited the importation of enslaved Africans

into the United States. When did the actual ban on importing enslaved Africans into the country take effect?

8. This Black American patented a device for handling sails and later owned a sail-making factory in Philadelphia in the mid-1800s. He was one of the richest men in Philadelphia and supported many abolitionist causes. Name him.

9. On March 16, 1827, two African American leaders, Samuel Cornish and John Russwurm, published the first Black newspaper in this country. What was the name of this newspaper?

10. On January 1, 1831, William Lloyd Garrison published the first issue of his militant anti-slavery newspaper in Boston. It quickly became a leading newspaper for African Americans in Boston and throughout the East. He relied heavily on Blacks for support of his paper. Name the newspaper.

1. Nile River Valley
2. Massachusetts
3. Chicago, Illinois
4. "The Ellis Island of Black America"
5. Los Angeles
6. Fugitive Slave Act
7. January 1, 1808
8. James Forten, Sr.
9. Freedom's Journal
10. The Liberator

### Answers



## Verbatim

Budget cuts have prompted the University of Maryland agriculture school to cancel farm field days across the state this summer while it ponders the value of the annual gatherings. **Thomas Fretz**, dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, canceled the field days last month, staff member **Eileen Barnett** said Thursday. The events were scheduled for July and August in five locations to expose farmers and equipment dealers to new research and techniques. Fretz, whose budget was trimmed by \$800,000 this fiscal year, said declining farmer attendance at some of the field days prompted university officials to appoint a task force to study the future of the program. Even in Washington County, where attendance has held steady at 500 to 700 in recent years, Fretz said he wondered, "Do we need to do it every year?" (Associated Press, Hagerstown, Md., March 7)

But Pearl Harbor and World War II transformed American society by drawing more than 16 million men and women into the armed forces. This war is being fought by a military of 1.4 million, less than one-half of 1 percent of the population. (And only about 5,300 of those troops are actually in or around Afghanistan.) "Imagine Pearl Harbor if it hadn't been followed by World War II," said **William A. Galston**, a political scientist at the University of Maryland. "What transformed the World War II generation wasn't the shock of the [Pearl Harbor] attack but the comprehensive national mobilization that followed," he said. "Well, we've had the attack but not the mobilization. What is most dramatic about the six months since Sept. 11 is not how much our lives have changed but rather how little." (William Galston is a professor in the School of Public Affairs; Baltimore Sun, March 11)

Another military euphemism, collateral damage, was used above. This was not a subliminal plug for Arnold Schwarzenegger's latest movie epic of vigilante revenge. It was an introduction to a phrase used in restrained apology for casualties among civilians or to destruction of other than military targets. It was also used by the mass murderer Timothy McVeigh — "there's always collateral damage" — in dismissing contrition for the children his truck bomb killed in Oklahoma City. The adjective collateral, "parallel," came to mean "ancillary, subordi-

nate"; as a noun, it is a pledge of security alongside a debt to ensure its payment. The essential meaning is now "on the side of." Where the adjective is used to modify damage, the meaning becomes "unintended, inadvertent." It is in the same league of hesitant regret as friendly fire. The phrasedick Fred Shapiro at Yale tracked it back in its current sense to a 1961 usage by **Thomas Schelling** in *Operations Research* magazine: "Measures to locate and design our strategic forces so as to minimize collateral damage." Reached at the University of Maryland, where he is now a distinguished professor, Schelling says, "I used it because it seemed to be the common terminology." He disclaims coinage of that and of counterforce and second strike, also often attributed to him; such modesty is rare. (When I coin something, I make sure all the nattering nabobs of negativism know it.) (Columnist and wordsmith William Safire writes about Thomas Schelling, a professor in the School of Public Affairs, New York Times, March 10)

**Carol Pearson**, author of "The Hero Within," expands. "I see heroes as people who are committed to making a difference and to developing their real inner strengths." Pearson, an executive coach and leadership scholar at the University of Maryland, gives an unconventional example of a hero. Consider the man who has a menial job — and an ailing wife and children to support at home. "He hates it, but he shows up for work each morning. There's real courage in that," she says. (Carol Pearson is a senior fellow at the Burns Academy of Leadership, Syracuse Herald Standard, March 10)

The cheers die down to a dull murmur as fans begin to filter out, many looking back one last time at "Old King Cole," as The Washington Post had dubbed it that morning. Mr. Callahan is relieved that the Terps won so easily. He is more pleased that he has only had to nail one group of miscreants who would dishonor Cole on its last great night. "Those bozos tried to steal these chairs from off the court," he says, lugging two chairs back onto the court and gesturing toward a couple of dazed-looking kids surrounded by cops. "Just tried to walk out with them under their coats." (**Curt Callahan** is assistant athletics director for operations and facilities. Chronicle of Higher Education, March 15)

## Dissertation: Gets Global Defense

Continued from page 1

and understanding on both sides of the Atlantic were perfect before the actual conference. A one-second difference between the audio and video signals coming from Russia seemed to be the biggest problem.

The videoconference was conducted using H.323 technology, the standard for video over the Internet. A room videoconferencing unit was used at Maryland, and a smaller desktop system was sent to Moscow and attached to a computer there. The set up on both ends was "relatively simple," according to Paleg. And the excellent clarity of the video and audio, along with the ability of the cameras to focus on whoever was speaking, were key to the success of the session. "It was almost like we were all at one table," Froese says.

A big advantage, according to Froese and Paleg, is the free connection. There are no fees to use videoconferencing over the

Although the idea of using videoconferencing for a dissertation defense is novel, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources has a rich history of using videoconferencing to enable its statewide faculty and staff to meet without incurring the high costs and downtime due to traveling. Two hundred and seventy faculty and staff recently participated in videoconference-based learning opportunities

on various subjects, including digital photography, planning and organization of Web pages, online learning environments and PowerPoint presentations without traveling to College Park. By helping create an environment that enables participants to be actively engaged, videoconferencing can be used effectively for presentations, virtual meetings, videoconference-based learning... and now dissertation defenses.

Internet, as opposed to toll calls to Russia. "I wish videoconference technology had been available during the two summers I spent conducting research in Siberia," says Froese, who communicated with Miller, and the other members of her committee, primarily using e-mail. "It's faster than writing e-mail messages and avoids costly phone bills. It would have really helped in my studies."

—By Jenni Chew, sophomore, journalism



# For Your Interest

## The Universities at Shady Grove Open House

The Universities at Shady Grove will host an open house Thursday, March 21 from 1:30 to 4 p.m., for those interested in upper-level, undergraduate programs or graduate programs.

Daytime, evening and weekend classes are offered at USG from nine of the University System of Maryland's institutions. Admission and transfer counselors will be on hand to answer questions. Complimentary refreshments will be served.

The address is 9630 Gudelsky Drive, Rockville. For directions, visit [www.shadygrove.umd.edu/about/directions.php](http://www.shadygrove.umd.edu/about/directions.php). For more information, call (301) 783-6023.

## At Your Service

The Department of Business Services (DBS) will offer a free "At Your Service" seminar to educate participants about the services DBS provides to the campus community. Those interested may attend Wednesday, April 10 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. or from 2 to 3 p.m. DBS unit representatives — from Document, Mail, Motor Transportation, Printing, Travel and Terp Services — will be on hand from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to discuss individual needs, display samples and offer tips for the use of services.

The registration deadline is March 22. For more information, contact Maria Goodlatte at (301) 405-9271 or [mgoodlat@mercury.umd.edu](mailto:mgoodlat@mercury.umd.edu).

## Study South of the Border This Summer

This summer, from July 15 to Aug. 2, the University of Maryland in collaboration with the Centro de Enseñanza para Extranjeros of the Universidad Autónoma de México will offer a study abroad program designed for ESOL (English as a Second Language) teachers and professionals.

Offered through the College of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, the course is EDCI 798, "International Perspectives on Language, Schooling and Culture: Cultural and Linguistic Immersion for Teachers of ESOL." This study-abroad opportunity will provide an intense cultural and linguistic immersion experience.

Participants will attend Spanish lessons, assist as an EFL (English as a Foreign Language) teacher, discuss second language pedagogy with local EFL teachers and participate in a graduate seminar comprising cross-cultural and pedagogical topics. There also will be cultural tours, possibly with trips to local schools. Graduate credit is available.

The program will be held in Taxco de Alarcon, one of Mexico's most famous silver cities, in the mountains located about

three hours south of Mexico City. The campus is at the Hacienda El Chorrillo, a refurbished colonial estate with classrooms, a library, garden, swimming pool and café, just 10 minutes from the city of Taxco. Participants will be housed with host families as part of the program.

For more information, contact College of Education TESOL faculty member Debra Suarez at [ds315@umail.umd.edu](mailto:ds315@umail.umd.edu). Also see the study abroad program Web site, [www.umd.edu/studyabroad](http://www.umd.edu/studyabroad). The application deadline is April 1.

## Where Man and Machines Meet

Andrew DePristo, president of GeneData AC, a bioinformatics solutions company, will present the seventh annual Fischell Lecture, "Traveling from Physics to Chemistry to Biology by Computer," on Monday, April 1 at 3 p.m. in 1201 Physics. A reception will be held at 2:30 p.m. in the Toll Room (on the first floor of the Physics Building).

GeneData AC develops bioinformatics systems and provides related consulting and customizations services in the in-silico functional genomics arena. DePristo has been a visiting professor at the university and he earned his doctorate (1976) in chemical physics (theory) from Maryland.

DePristo will talk about the goals and uses of computers in the three sciences and describe the challenges in industrial biological science brought about by the development and implementation of high-throughput genomic, transcriptomic and proteomic technologies.

The Fischell lecture was established by Robert Fischell to promote university collaboration with industry to help industry meet its needs. Fischell is an alumnus of the College of Computer, Mathematical and Physical Sciences. For more information, call the CMPS Dean's Office, External Relations, at (301) 405-8296.

## Say Yes to Yoga

Campus Recreation Services offers non-credit courses in Yoga with three levels of ability to choose from: Beginning Yoga I, II and Intermediate. Courses begin the first week of April and run into May. The fee is \$50.

Beginning Yoga I teaches basic yoga poses (asanas) and breathing techniques (pranayama) to increase flexibility, strength and relaxation. Beginning Yoga II teaches how to deepen both yoga practice and understanding of techniques learned in Basic Yoga I. The Intermediate Yoga course is a more rigorous yoga course that requires yoga experience. Explore a range of challenging poses practiced in isolation and in dynamic sequences with other poses.

Registration deadlines vary, so check the Web site for specifics ([www.crs.umd.edu](http://www.crs.umd.edu)).

For more information, contact Laura Sutter at (301) 405-PLAY or [ls220@umail.umd.edu](mailto:ls220@umail.umd.edu), or visit [www.crs.umd.edu](http://www.crs.umd.edu).

## BFSA Spring Dance Lessons

Put on those dancing shoes because Roberta Coates will be giving lessons on Tuesday, March 19 in the Nyumburu Cultural Center, Multipurpose Room and Wednesday, March 20 in 0154 Tawes Fine Arts Building. Both sessions go from 5 to 6 p.m., and will be an opportunity to learn the newest dance steps.

The BFSA Spring Dance will be held Saturday, April 6 from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom, Stamp Student Union. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Contact Takeyah Young at [youngta@wam.umd.edu](mailto:youngta@wam.umd.edu).

## Gliner Center Award for Contributions to Humor

The Art Gliner Center for Humor Studies is delighted to announce that its second annual award for a contribution to society through humor will go to Art Buchwald. The award will be presented on March 21 at 6 p.m. at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

Buchwald has been producing important humor and satire for more than 50 years. He has been called "probably the greatest satirist in English since Pope and Swift."

The Gliner Center's first award was given to the late cartoonist Herbert Block (Herblock) last year. A letter from then-President Clinton saluting Herblock and the award was presented at the ceremony.

Additional information about the award and about the Art Gliner Center is available from the center's director, Lawrence E. Mintz, at (301) 405-1360 or [LM36@umail.umd.edu](mailto:LM36@umail.umd.edu).

## Online Supervisor Safety Training Course

Are you a supervisor? Do employees who report to you—such as staff personnel, teaching assistants, researchers or students—work with hazardous chemicals or materials or perform hazardous duties or work in hazardous operations?

If you answered yes or maybe to any of these questions, it is your responsibility to take the online Supervisor Safety Training course to ensure you have a thorough understanding of your safety responsibilities as a supervisor to your staff.

The online Supervisor Safety Training course will ask more specific questions and provide detailed supporting information to increase your understanding and awareness of the

hazards your employees are exposed to and your safety obligations as their supervisor.

Take the on-line Supervisor Safety Training course at [www.inform.umd.edu/CampusInfo/Departments/EnvirSafety/super/index.html](http://www.inform.umd.edu/CampusInfo/Departments/EnvirSafety/super/index.html).

For guidance on other safety training, refer to the Safety Training Guide at [www.inform.umd.edu/CampusInfo/Departments/EnvirSafety/risk\\_comm/edu/guide/index.htm](http://www.inform.umd.edu/CampusInfo/Departments/EnvirSafety/risk_comm/edu/guide/index.htm).

## Pace and Race Running Course

Campus Recreation Services will offer a six-week, non-credit course for the beginning runner who hopes to complete a first 5K run, as well as for the more experienced recreation runner interested in being challenged to run faster and longer. Learn run/walk combinations, interval workouts and tempo runs. Long slow runs will be used, as well as running drills and sport-specific exercises and stretches.

The course will meet from April 3-May 12 on Sundays, 10 to 11:15 a.m. (at the CRC) and Wednesdays, 12 to 1 p.m. (at Ludwig Field/Kehoe Track).

The fee is \$50. For more information or to register, contact Laura Sutter at (301) 405-PLAY or [ls220@umail.umd.edu](mailto:ls220@umail.umd.edu), or visit [www.crs.umd.edu](http://www.crs.umd.edu).

## Valuing Our Bodies

The Student Entertainment Enterprise (SEE) Review Board is sponsoring "Fads, Ads, and Actors: What They Tell Us About Our Selves, Our Bodies, and Our Relationships" with Joe Kelly on April 1 at 7 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of Stamp Student Union.

The program will examine the media myths and messages that pervade our lives and impact both males and females in ways that cause us to devalue ourselves and each other and engage in destructive behaviors in order to emulate false and misleading cultural standards.

The event is being organized by the Panhellenic Task Force on Eating Disorders, the Counseling Center and the Health Center. Brenda Alpert Sigall and Julie Parsons, providers of campus eating disorders programs and services and co-directors of the task force, have coordinated the event in conjunction with the university's observance of national Eating Disorders Awareness Week.

An author, journalist and featured speaker, Kelly is executive director of Dads and Daughters, a national nonprofit organization whose philosophy and mission are reflected in Kelly's statement: "Those who tell [my daughters] that 'inner beauty only goes so far' — to quote one ad slogan — are simply lying. It's a dangerous lie and one we shouldn't let anyone sell to us anymore."